

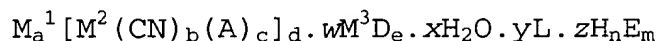
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-35. (Cancelled)

Claim 36. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~41~~ 34, wherein the double metal cyanide complex catalyst is of the formula I



wherein

M^1 represents at least one of Zn(II), Fe(II), Co(II), Ni(II),

Mn(II), Cu(II), Sn(II) or Pb(II);

M^2 represents at least one of Fe(II), Fe(III), Co(III), Cr(III),

Mn(II), Mn(III), Ir(III), Rh(III), Ru(II), V(IV) or V(V);

M^3 represents M^1 and/or M^2 ;

A, D and E are the same or different and represent an anion;

L represents an alcohol, aldehyde, acetone, ether, ester, amide, nitrile or sulphide or mixtures thereof;

a and d are numbers to satisfy the valency state of M^1 and M^2 in the double metal cyanide part of the formula I;

b and c are integers ($b > c$) which together with a and d provide the electroneutrality of the double metal cyanide part of the formula I;

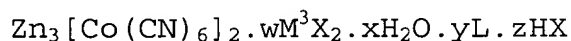
e is an integer satisfying the valency state of M^3 ;

n and m are integers satisfying the electroneutrality of HE, and

w is a number between 0.1 and 4; x is a number up to 20;

y is a number between 0.1 and 6, and z is a number between 0.1 and 5.

Claim 37. (currently amended) A method according to claim 41 34, wherein the double metal cyanide complex catalyst is of the formula



wherein

X represents a halide;

M^3 represents Zn(II), Co(II) or Fe(II);

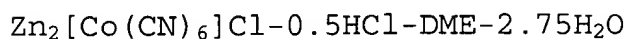
L represents an alcohol, ether or ester;

w is a number between 0.7 and 1.5;

x is a number between 2 and 10;

y is a number between 1.5 and 3, and z is a number between 0.15 and 1.5.

Claim 38. (currently amended) A method according to claim 41 34, wherein the double metal cyanide complex catalyst is of the formula



where DME represents a dimethoxyethane residue.

Claims 39-40. (Cancelled)

Claim 41. (new) A method for preparing a phthalate polyester-ether polyol comprising the steps of reacting

(a) about 2 - 60 % based on the weight of phthalate polyester-ether polyol of phthalic anhydride or phthalic acid; and

(b) about 40 - 98 % based on the weight of phthalate polyester-ether polyol of diethylene glycol

to form an intermediate phthalate-diethylene glycol polyester-polyol; and alkoxyating said intermediate polyester polyol with polypropylene oxide in the presence of a double metal cyanide complex catalyst.

Claim 42. (new) A method according to claim 41, where the alkoxyating is carried out with about 10-80% of propylene oxide based on the weight of the phthalate polyester-ether polyol.

Claim 43. (new) A method according to claim 41, where the alkoxylation is carried out with about 55-80% of propylene oxide based on the weight of the phthalate polyester-ether polyol.